

10. PURPLE HERON (*ARDEA PURPUREA*) SWALLOWING A JUNGLE BABBLER

On February 26, 1979, Shri Hukum Chand, Forester of Bharatpur Sanctuary and I were crossing the irrigation canal 1 m deep and 3 m wide, just outside the sanctuary across the new road on the east when we stopped on hearing house crows. A purple heron *Ardea purpurea* adult was sitting about 10 m away on a Babul tree, holding a dead full grown jungle babbler, *Turdoides striatus* across near the tip

of its beak. Five House crows were worrying the heron, they flew over and at the heron. The jungle babbler was full grown, and did not have any wounds. The heron tossed the jungle babbler in the air, caught it, head first and swallowed. It took 27 seconds for the jungle babbler, to travel the length of the heron's slender neck, as a conspicuous bulge.

WILDLIFE WARDEN,
MUDUMALAI SANCTUARY,
TEMPLETOWN COTTAGE,
VANNARPET,
UDAGAMANDALAM 643 001,
April 12, 1986.

J. MANGALRAJ JOHNSON¹

¹ Wildlife Warden, 46, Nachimutu Gounder Street,
Pallachi 642 001, Coimbatore Dist., Tamil Nadu.

11. RECOVERY OF A NORWEGIAN RINGED OSPREY IN GUJARAT, INDIA

On November 5, 1985, Mr. A. N. Jadeja saw a large bird falling into his field after having collided with a high tension electric line near Kajurda village (22°20' N, 69°42' E), Jamnagar district, Gujarat. The bird was dead when picked up and had a ring on one leg. He removed the ring (Museum Stavanger Norway, 231503) and buried the bird. I learnt about this incident in the market place of Jamnagar, met Mr. A. N. Jadeja and contacted the Museum Stavanger. The Museum in-

formed me that the bird was an Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus* (Linné), ringed as a chick on July 13, 1985 at Hastfoss (69°07' N, 29°04' E), Norway. This would mean that the young bird had flown a distance of at least 5855 km. This is probably the first record of a European ringed Osprey recovered in India. The Osprey is a winter migrant to most of the Indian subcontinent, with a few possible nesting pairs in the Himalayas (Ali and Ripley 1982).

DEPARTMENT OF BIOSCIENCES,
SAURASHTRA UNIVERSITY,
RAJKOT - 360 005,
GUJARAT.
May 30, 1986.

TAEJ MUNDKUR

REFERENCE

ALI, SALIM & RIPLEY, S. DILLON (1982): Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Compact Edition. Oxford University Press, Delhi.